

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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INFO CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, MARR, ECON, RP

SUBJ: EDITORIALS ON AMBASSADOR'S FAREWELL STATEMENT

1. FOLLOWING ARE THE FULL TEXTS OF EDITORIALS ON AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN'S FAREWELL STATEMENT WHICH APPEARED IN THE BULLETIN TODAY AND THE DAILY EXPRESS, APRIL 28.

2. BULLETIN TODAY (LEAD EDIT) TITLE: AN ENVOY'S OBSERVATIONS.
BEGIN TEXT.

"THE PARTING STATEMENT OF OUTGOING US AMBASSADOR WILLIAM H. SULLIVAN WAS COMPLIMENTARY TO THE PHILIPPINES. HE SAID HE EXPECTED THAT THE NEXT ECONOMIC MIRACLE IN ASIA WOULD TAKE PLACE IN THIS COUNTRY.

"AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN, A CAREER DIPLOMAT, HAS BEEN HERE SINCE 1973. HE HAS NOTED THE CHANGES AND THE GROWING CONFIDENCE OF THE FILIPINOS IN RUNNING THEIR OWN AFFAIRS. THERE IS AMPLE BASIS FOR HIS STATEMENT.

"HE ALSO SAID THAT HE TRUSTED HIS COUNTRY WOULD PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION OF THE
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PHILIPPINES.

"WE THINK THAT ROLE WAS VIEWED BY SULLIVAN IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. FOR HE SAID:

"WHEN I CAME HERE IN 1973, I EXPRESSED THE CONVICTION THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD ENTER ON A NEW ERA WHICH WOULD BE

CHARACTERIZED BY MUTUAL RESPECT AND DIGNITY. I BELIEVE WE ARE NOW WELL-LAUNCHED INTO THAT ERA AND THAT OUR RELATIONS REFLECT THOSE QUALITIES. THERE ARE NO SIGNIFICANT INSOLUBLE ISSUES BETWEEN US.'

"FOR BOTH COUNTRIES THAT OUGHT TO BE THE IDEAL RELATIONSHIP; MUTUAL RESPECT AND DIGNITY SHOULD BE THE CONDITIONS.

"FOR SO MANY YEARS IN THE PAST THE PHILIPPINES WAS HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON THE US ECONOMICALLY. THAT CONDITION WAS LESS THAN SATISFACTORY FOR BOTH: FOR THE US IT TEMPTED UNDUE IMPOSITIONS, FOR THE PHILIPPINES IT CONTRIBUTED TO THE FAILURE TO DEVELOP THE NATIONAL POTENTIAL (AND UP TO THE PRESENT ONE CAN READ IN SOME AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS THE REPROACHFUL ELUCIDATION OF HOW MUCH IN AID HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO THIS COUNTRY).

"NOW AND IN THE FUTURE THE CONDITIONS OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND DIGNITY IMPLY, AS FAR AS THE ECONOMY OF THE PHILIPPINES IS CONCERNED, HARD WORK FOR THIS COUNTRY AND AN UNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF BOTH COUNTRIES OF WHAT AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN CALLS THEIR 'ESSENTIAL INTERESTS.'

"IF THE LOGIC OF DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION POINTS TO THAT COURSE IT CANNOT BE SAID THAT IT IS NOT WITHOUT OBSTACLES. MR. SULLIVAN POINTS UP THE 'UNDERSTANDABLE EMOTIONAL FACTORS.' IT IS BELIEVED THESE WILL EVENTUALLY BE OVERCOME BY GOOD FAITH." END TEXT.

3. DAILY EXPRESS: TITLE: ECONOMIC MIRACLE. BEGIN TEXT.
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"OUTGOING US AMBASSADOR WILLIAM H. SULLIVAN, IN A FAREWELL STATEMENT WHICH NO DOUBT WILL CARRY ITS REVERBERATIONS FAR AND WIDE, DECLARED:

"I HAVE GREAT CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF THE PHILIPPINES. NOT ONLY THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THIS BOUNTIFULLY ENDOWED COUNTRY, BUT ABOVE ALL ITS HUMAN RESOURCES GIVE EVERY CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM.'

"SULLIVAN ADDED: 'I FULLY EXPECT THAT THE NEXT 'ECONOMIC MIRACLE' IN ASIA WILL TAKE PLACE IN THIS COUNTRY, AND I TRUST THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THAT DEVELOPMENT.'

"AND WHAT ARE THE SIGNS THAT PROMISE THIS MIRACLE?

"AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN NOTED THAT PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE IS ON THE 'BRINK OF SIGNIFICANT TRANSFORMATION.'

HE CITED THE FACT THAT GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS ARE UNDERGOING CHANGE AND THE COUNTRY'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS ARE EXPANDING.

"NO DOUBT THE AMBASSADOR, LOOKING OUT OF HIS CHANCERY WINDOW ON ROXAS BOULEVARD, COULD SEE WHAT THE PHILIPPINES HAS BUILT UP AND IS BUILDING AT A RATE WHICH HAS AMAZED EVEN FILIPINOS THEMSELVES. THERE IS NO DOUBT ALSO THAT THE AMBASSADOR WHO HAS TRAVELLED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY HAD SEEN A PERKING UP OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY EVERYWHERE.

"WHEN HE SPEAKS OF SIGNIFICANT TRANSFORMATION IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE, HE MUST REFER TO A CHANGING LIFESTYLE IN THE PHILIPPINES; PEOPLE EATING BETTER, WEARING BETTER CLOTHES, LIVING IN BETTER HOMES, BUYING APPLIANCES.

"THE AMBASSADOR PERHAPS MISSED ONE IMPORTANT THING: THAT MUCH UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE DEVELOPMENTAL KICK GOING ON HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY A NO-NONSENSE GOVERNMENT EFFORT TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND ORDER. ACCOMPANYING THIS HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS GOVERNMENT PUSH TO PROVIDE THE COUNTRY WITH THE NEEDED INFRASTRUCTURE.

"AMERICA'S ROLE IN PHILIPPINE DEVELOPMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE STRONG. AFTER ALL, THE US REMAINS THE TOP FOREIGN INVESTOR IN THIS COUNTRY.

"IF, HOWEVER, THE 'ECONOMIC MIRACLE' DOES COME TO PASS, WE HAVE NO ONE REALLY TO THANK, EXCEPT OURSELVES, AND THAT WOULD HAPPEN BECAUSE WE ARE BREAKING BACKS TO MAKE IT HAPPEN. THIS IS ONE MIRACLE THAT WILL HAPPEN -- BUT WILL TAKE A LOT OF DOING." END TEXT.
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